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22 October 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Deputy Director for
Intelligence

SUBJECT : Compromise of IM 70-134, "Communist
Subversion in the South Vietnamese
Army and Security Apparatus"

1. This morning [] went to a VSSG Working Group meeting. In a separate discussion with [] raised the question of whether or not the Neil Sheehan article also involved a compromise of IM 70-134. [] observation was based on this paragraph in the Sheehan article:

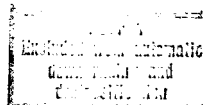
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"The number of such agents is said to be growing, with a goal of 50,000. If this goal is reached, the spy organization would be 5 per cent of the South Vietnamese military and police forces. The C.I.A. study doubts, however, that the Communists achieved their goal by the end of 1969, the target date."

2. The May report spoke to the 50,000 goal. The September report spoke to the 50,000 goal and also had a footnote pointing out that 50,000 was 5 percent of the GVN military and security apparatus (see Page 24).

3. It seems to us that this is really not evidence of a compromise of IM 70-134. This seems to be the case principally because the paragraph in question is immediately on the heels of sentences apparently resulting from Sheehan's discussions with "high White House officials." My guess is that in parrying with Sheehan, General Haig had in mind the September report rather than the May report. This would explain for example the White House saying the study contained a figure of 20,000 rather than 30,000. Thus the compromise, if any, would appear to have been a verbal



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recounting of some of the figures in the September report. It would not seem to be a compromise in a sense of Sheehan having physical access to the September report. If, for example, he did have the September report, I would have expected Sheehan to give a large play to paragraph 85b which says flatly that the GVN security organization has been inadequate and that there is little assurance that it will be able to prevent further growth of military proselyting. I would have also expected Sheehan to focus on other tidbits in the September report such as its fairly vigorous condemnation of the ID system (see Paras 53 and 54).

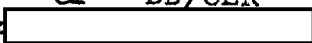


Deputy Director
Economic Research

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